GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:984
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
RESTORING TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN TSUNAMI HIT AREAS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BSNL proposes to connect the major islands of Andaman and Nicobar with the mainland;

(b) if so, the names of islands connected with the mainland;

(c) the amount spent for restoring the exchanges in Tsunami hit areas; and

(d) the time by which all the exchanges which have been dislocated become operational?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b)

(i) Port Blair (South Andaman) and Car Nicobar are connected directly with main land through satellite media.

(ii) The following Islands are connected with the mainland through Port Blair:- North Andaman, Middle Andaman, South Andaman, Little Andaman, Havelock, Neil, Katchal, Long Island, Teressa Island, Great Nicobar, Kamorta & Champin.

(iii) It is also proposed to connect Hutbay, Campbelbay, Havelock, Kamorta, Neil, Katchal, Teressa and Long Island directly with mainland using satelite media during 05-06.

(c) An amount of Rs. 20,17,41,400 (Rupees Twenty Crore Seventeen Lakh Forty One Thousand Four Hundred only) has been spent for restoring the Exchanges in Tsunami hit areas of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(d) All the Exchanges which have been dislocated are likely to be operational by 30th June, 2005. As on date 18 Exchanges out of 23 have been restored.